

Food Insecurity and the Work of the Foodbank



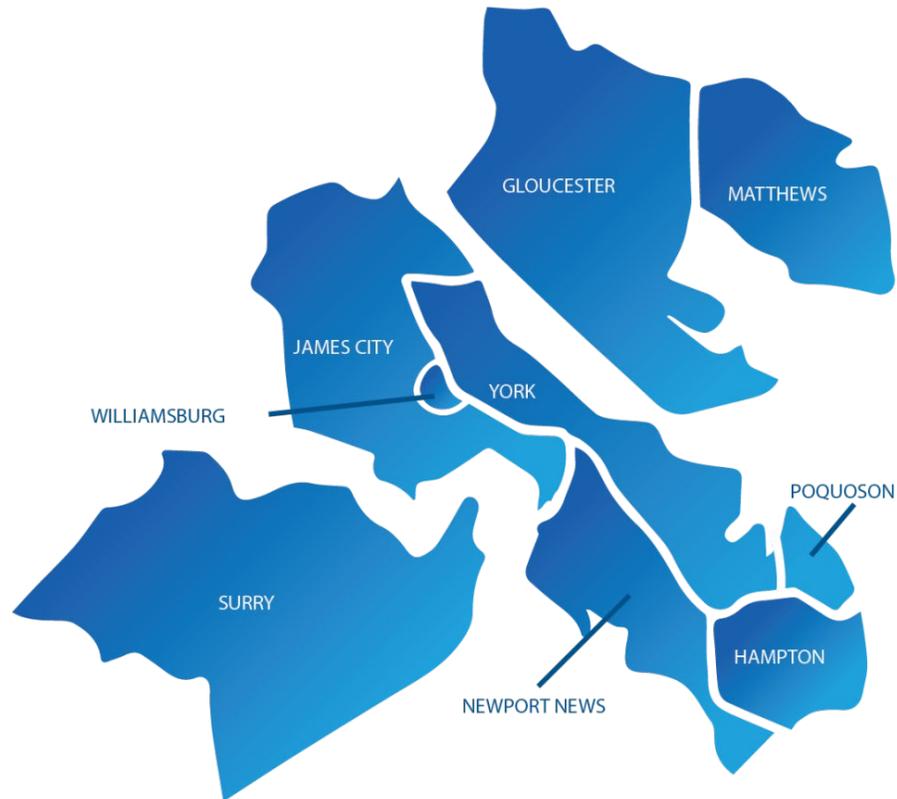
Working Towards a Hunger-Free Community

Mission

The mission of Virginia Peninsula Foodbank is to distribute food effectively through collaborative efforts that minimize hunger, promote nutrition and encourage self-reliance through education.

Vision

Our vision is to inspire hope by leading the effort for a hunger-free and properly nourished community.



Hunger vs. Food Insecurity



There is a difference!

- ▶ Hunger is a feeling. We all have felt hungry.
- ▶ Food insecurity is lacking access to the resources needed to nourish yourself or your family in order to live a healthy lifestyle.
- ▶ Over 70,000 people (11%) on the Peninsula are classified as food insecure.
 - ▶ A third of the people we serve are children.
 - ▶ 23% Seniors
- ▶ Distributed over 9 million meals in 2025 through November
 - ▶ In York County, 11.3% of residents experience food insecurity. That is 1 in 9 people, or 7,080. In 2023, the number of food insecure individuals was 4,130, meaning there has been a 71% increase in two years.
 - ▶ 1,870 children experience food insecurity, up from 860 in 2023. That's more than double the amount of children who don't always have access to nourishing meals.

Child Nutrition Programs



- ▶ Food For Kids Backpack Program - weekend meals
- ▶ Kids Cafe Program - evening meals at participating schools and nonprofits
- ▶ Summer Food Service Program - breakfast and lunch during summer months
- ▶ School Produce Markets

Mobile Food Pantry Program

- ▶ Direct service to our neighbors right where they live and visit
- ▶ Key avenue for produce distribution
- ▶ Pop-Up distributions during government shutdown



Culinary Training Program

- ▶ Rigorous 12-week job and life skills training program
- ▶ Leads to full-time employment and self-sufficiency
- ▶ Students prepare meals for child nutrition programs
- ▶ Community leaders teach life skills



Partner Agency Distribution Program

- ▶ Over 120 partner agencies
- ▶ Obtain food at our warehouse and take it to the community
- ▶ More than 75% of food is distributed through partner agencies
- ▶ Extend our reach and impact



Other Programs

- ▶ Commodity Supplemental Food Program, The Emergency Food Assistance Program
- ▶ Health Initiatives Program
- ▶ Community Pantry
- ▶ Sentara Food Lockers
- ▶ Neighbor to Neighbor Program



Community is our greatest asset



Ways to Support the Foodbank

- Share the story of the Foodbank and our neighbors to your network and community
- Food Drives
 - High-fiber, low-sugar, and low-sodium items
 - Pop-top cans for easy access
 - Shelf-stable milk
 - Spices, oils, items that are essential for cooking
- Volunteering
- Donations
 - Every \$1 = 3 meal



THANK YOU!

